

1 ABSTRACT

2 Formation of a substantially flat upper cladding surface over a waveguide core
3 facilitates transverse-coupling between assembled waveguides, and/or provides
4 mechanical alignment and/or support. An embedding medium may be employed for
5 securing optical assemblies and protecting optical surfaces thereof. Structural elements
6 fabricated with a low-profile core may be employed for providing mechanical alignment
7 and/or support, aiding in the encapsulation process, and so forth.

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